

17 June 1982



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In addition to revealing how we did, Studies is the natural place to seek answers to questions about how we are doing (a constant question in the minds of nervous intelligence professionals). This especially is the case since the important Gates' benchmark on the subject in Studies last year. There are a lot of rumors and at least some self-serving comments on the subject, but I know of no comprehensive and, dare I say, "impartial," assessment by someone in a position, and having the kind of recent experience, to know.

If there is no one person (or persons) who might be prevailed upon to provide an interim and authoritative update of the Gates' findings, such an assessment would appropriately be postponed. At the least, someone might be asked to pull together a description of the Reagan-Casey system and procedures. This would be in the nature of a reporting assignment drawing upon perspectives of IG/SIG/NSC meeting participants, perhaps those who are most likely to be able to provide telling details.



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